

From: Terri-A White/R3/USEPA/US
Sent: 1/19/2012 6:21:12 PM
To: "Susan Phillips" <SPhillips@why.org>
CC:
Subject: Re: EPA to Begin Sampling Water at Some Residences in Dimock, Pa.

Susan,
I'm sorry but I was unable to arrange for an EPA spokesperson to be taped. The EPA press release links to a site where we've posted several documents. Please see the Action Memo, which answers your questions. The first paragraph explains that we're using CERCLA authorities. Page 5 of the same document talks about the contaminants found in water at the four homes. Let me know if you have any other questions. -- Terri
Sent by EPA Wireless E-Mail Services

From: Susan Phillips [SPhillips@why.org]
Sent: 01/19/2012 04:58 PM EST
To: Terri-A White
Subject: Re: EPA to Begin Sampling Water at Some Residences in Dimock, Pa.

Yes, thanks.

Susan Phillips
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From: Terri-A White <White.Terri-A@epamail.epa.gov>
Date: Thu, 19 Jan 2012 16:36:21 -0500
To: Julian Herzfeld <SPhillips@why.org>
Subject: Re: EPA to Begin Sampling Water at Some Residences in Dimock, Pa.
On tape, right Susan?
From: Susan Phillips <SPhillips@why.org>
To: Terri-A White/R3/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 01/19/2012 04:28 PM
Subject: Re: EPA to Begin Sampling Water at Some Residences in Dimock, Pa.

Hi Terri, I'm wondering if someone could explain what was found in the water of the four households that warrant delivery. Also, I'm wondering what the legal basis of the water deliveries are, i.e. Cercla, sdwa..

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From: Terri-A White <White.Terri-A@epamail.epa.gov>
Date: Thu, 19 Jan 2012 16:04:37 -0500
Subject: EPA to Begin Sampling Water at Some Residences in Dimock, Pa.
To View All Press Releases: <http://www.epa.gov/region3/r3press/r3press.htm>
To View All Press Releases: <http://www.epa.gov/region3/r3press/r3press.htm>
Contact: white.terri-a@epa.gov 215-814-5523

EPA to Begin Sampling Water at Some Residences in Dimock, Pa.

PHILADELPHIA (Jan. 19, 2012) – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced today that it plans to perform water sampling at approximately 60 homes in the Carter Road/Meshoppen Creek Road area of Dimock, Pa. to further assess whether any residents are being exposed to hazardous substances that cause health concerns. EPA's decision to conduct sampling is based on EPA's review of data provided by residents, Cabot Oil and Gas, and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

"EPA is working diligently to understand the situation in Dimock and address residents' concerns," said EPA Regional Administrator Shawn M. Garvin. "We believe that the information provided to us by the residents deserves further review, and conducting our own sampling will help us fill information gaps. Our actions will be based on the science and the law and we will work to help get a more complete picture of water quality for these homes in Dimock."

The sampling will begin in a matter of days and the agency estimates that it will take at least three weeks to sample all the homes. All sampling is contingent on access granted to the property. EPA expects validated results from quality-tested lab to be available in about five weeks after samples are taken.

In addition, EPA is taking action to ensure delivery of temporary water supplies to four homes where data reviewed by EPA indicates that residents' well water contains levels of contaminants that pose a health concern. EPA will reevaluate this decision when it completes sampling of the wells at these four homes. Current information on other wells does not support the need for alternative water at this time. However, the information does support the need for further sampling.

Natural gas plays a key role in our nation's clean energy future and the Obama Administration is committed to ensuring that the development of this vital resource occurs safely and responsibly. At the direction of Congress, and separate from this limited sampling, EPA has begun a national study on the potential impacts of hydraulic fracturing on drinking water resources.

For additional information regarding this site please visit the website at:
http://www.epaosc.org/dimock_residential_groundwater